Upper Las Vegas Wash CTA: SOILS



SOILS

- Refine Soil Map
- Characterize Soils
 - Pedons

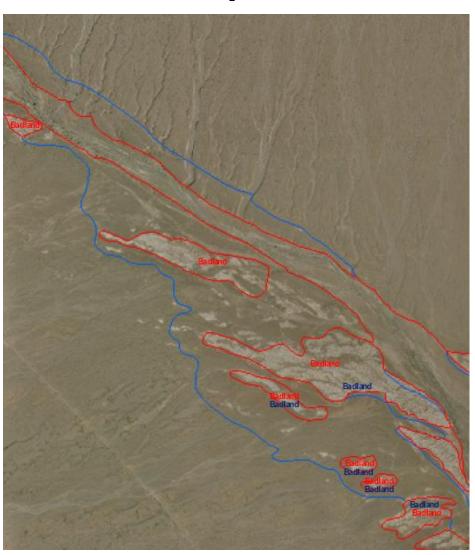
- Surface Soils



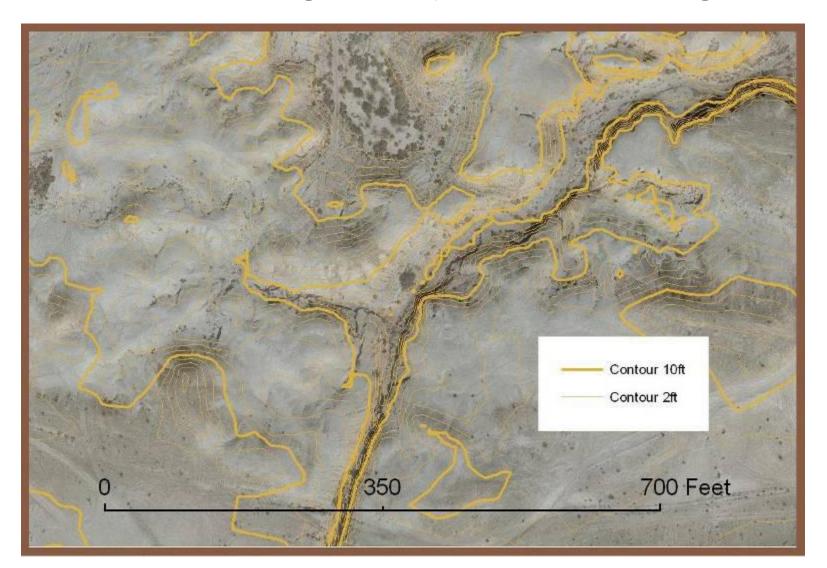


Refined Soil Map

- Soil Survey Data-Spring 2007(Blue)
 - Las Vegas ValleyArea
 - Clark County Area
- Geographic Information System (GIS)
 - Digital Data
- Refine polygons (Red)



High Resolution Aerial Photography and Topography



Refined Soil Map

- Better fit tones, landform, relief
- Adjust lines
 - Northwest
- Delineate new polygons
 - Southeast
 - Plants of interest
 - Complex patterns



Develop & Document Soil Map

- 45 pedons (soil profiles)
 - Major vegetation associations
 - Major landscape units
 - Excavated,described, andsampled
 - 26 in June 2007
 - 19 in Feb 2008

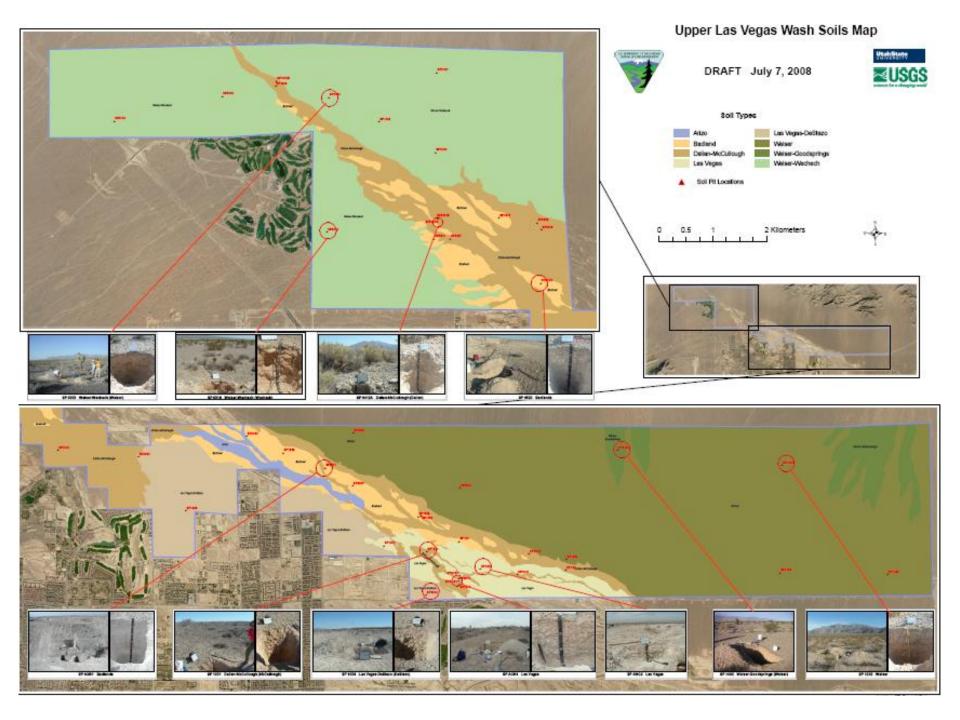


Soil Pedons

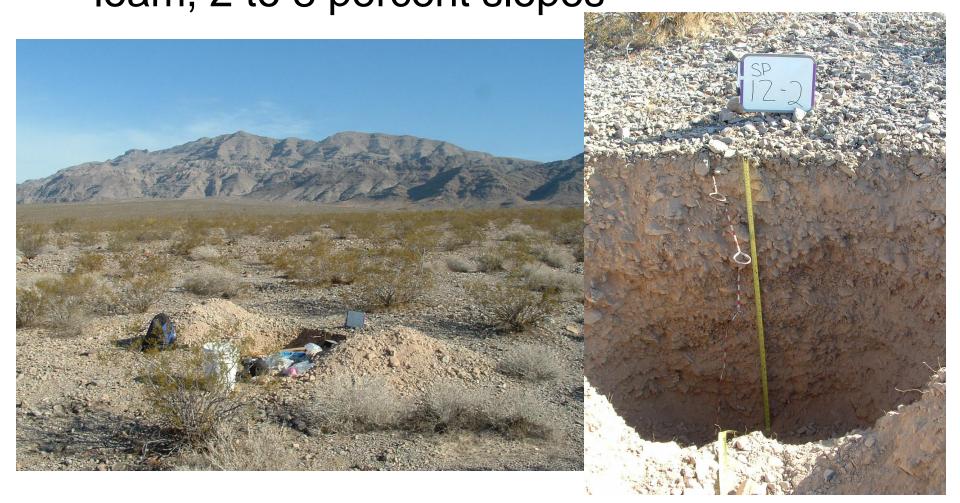
- Analyzed by genetic horizon
 - Texture
 - Clay%
 - -pH
 - Calcium carbonate reaction w/ HCl
 - Electrical conductivity
 - Gypsum
 - Bulk density
 - % Calcified fragments

Refined Soil Map

- Soil Pedons
 - Classified
 - Family level USDA Soil Taxonomy
 - e.g., Loamy-skeletal, carbonatic, thermic Typic Haplocalcids
 - Correlated
 - Established series
 - e.g., Weiser series
- Used Established Map Units
 - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Soil interpretations, chemical &physical data

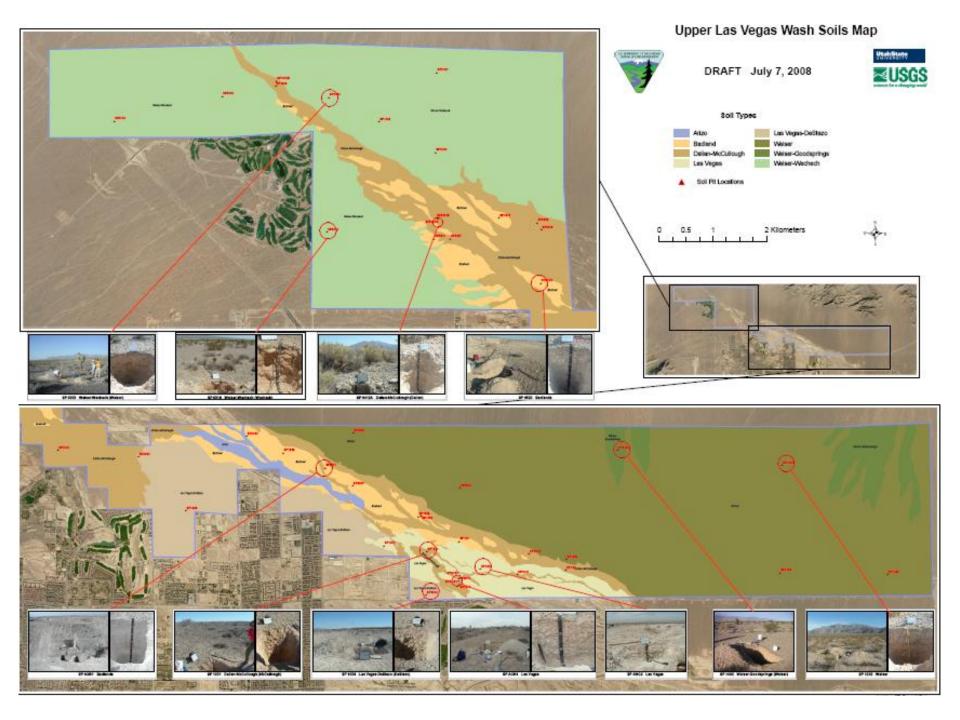


 540—Weiser extremely gravelly fine sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes



• 314—Weiser-Wechech association





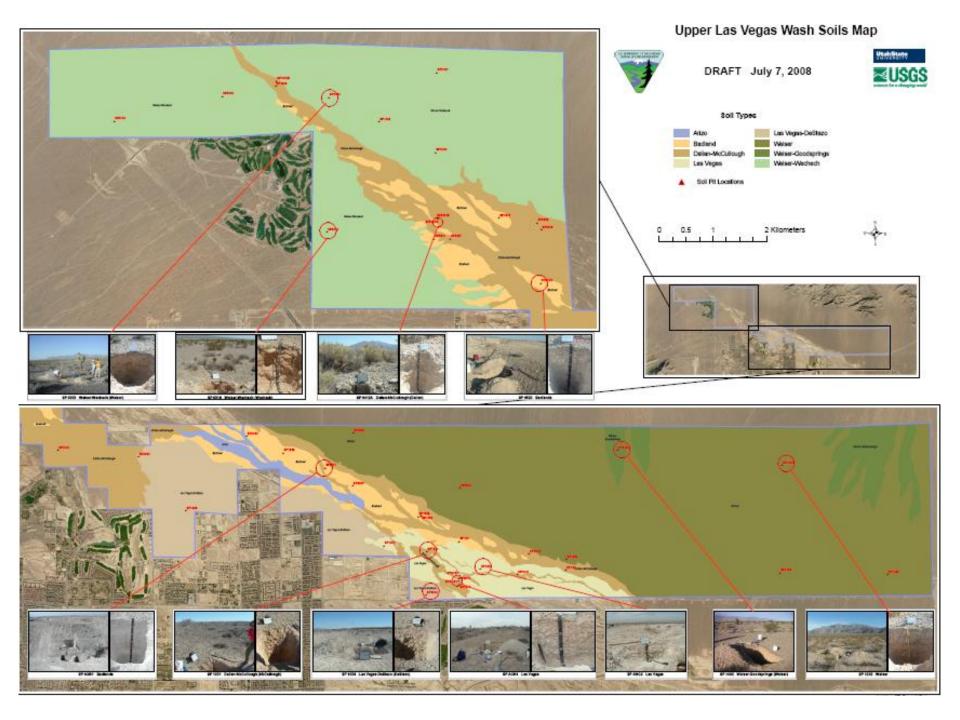
• 192—Dalian-McCullough complex, 0 to 4

percent slopes



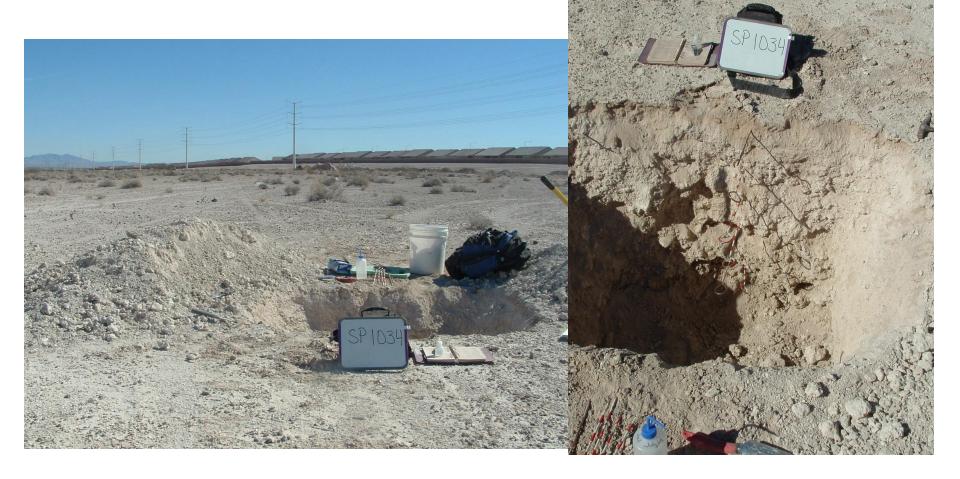
192—Dalian-McCullough complex, 0 to 4





• 305—Las Vegas-DeStazo complex, 0 to 2

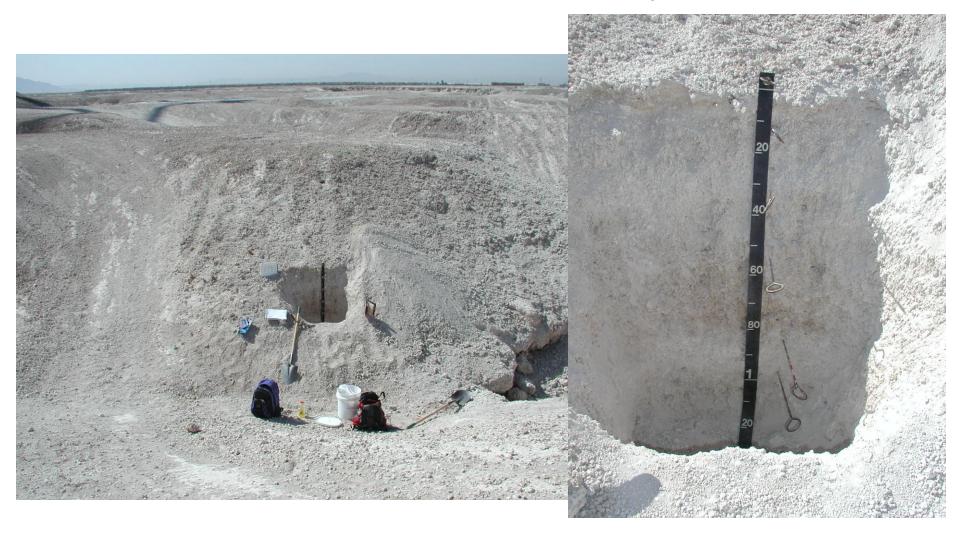
percent slopes



 300—Las Vegas gravelly fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes



• 630—Badland (Not sampled by USDA-NRCS)



300-Las Vegas and 630-Badland

Plants of interest (POI)

- Basin floor, spring deposits

Very highly calcareous

Cemented layers, nodules

- Relict redoximorphic feature

- Late Pleistocene marsh
- Exhumed paleosols
- Gypsum in subsoil
 - Trace (<0.1%) to 5%



Surface Soils

- Vegetation Sampling
 - 0-8 cm (0-3 in.) soil
 - 286 points X 2
 - Presence under plant canopy
 - Absence 50-cm away in open
 - Same analyses as pedons



- Plants of interest presence/absence
 - Lower bulk density
 - Higher % calcified fragments
- Gypsum rare
 - <1% all samples had ≥0.1% gypsum





Surface Soils

- Rare Plant Survey
 - 0-8 cm (0-3 in.) soil
 - 100 points
 - 38 ARCCAL presence
 - 11 ERYCOR presence
 - 51 Absence
 - Same analyses as pedons
 - ARCCAL, ERYCOR
 - Lower bulk density
 - Gypsum rare
 - <3% samples had ≥0.1% gypsum



Surface Soils

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 - 100 points
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 - Same analyses as pedons
 - ARCCAL, ERYCOR
 - Lower bulk density
 - Gypsum rare
 - <3% samples had ≥0.1% gypsum
- Gypsophiles???

